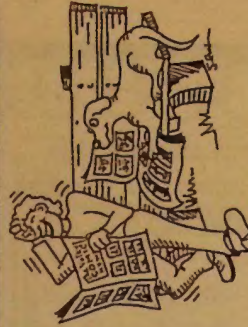


The Valley CONVENTS



ISSUE #32
February 7, 1991

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THE FAR SIDE
CALVIN & HOBBS
DOONESBURY
VIEWS OF THE WORLD
EARTHWEEK

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT
THE BRASS & FERN
JOE BOB BRIGGS

STORIES:

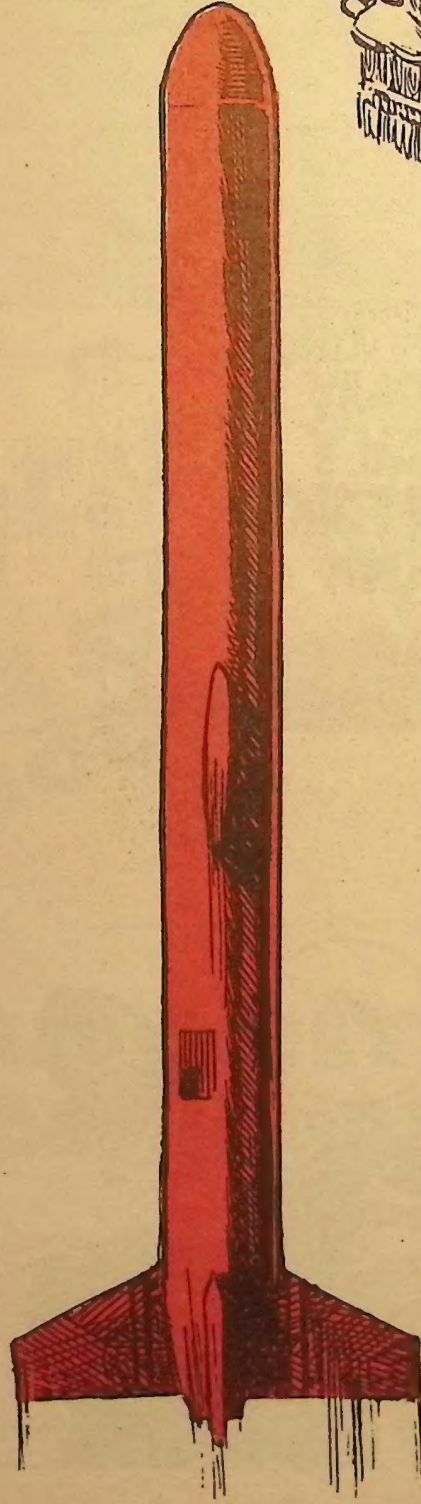
PROPAGANDA PROS
FROM THE FRONT
INVOLVED ISRAEL
TIMELY TACTICS
POLITICING
MONETARY MEANS

**SUBSCRIPTION
DRIVE
&**

**PRIZE
GIVE-AWAY**

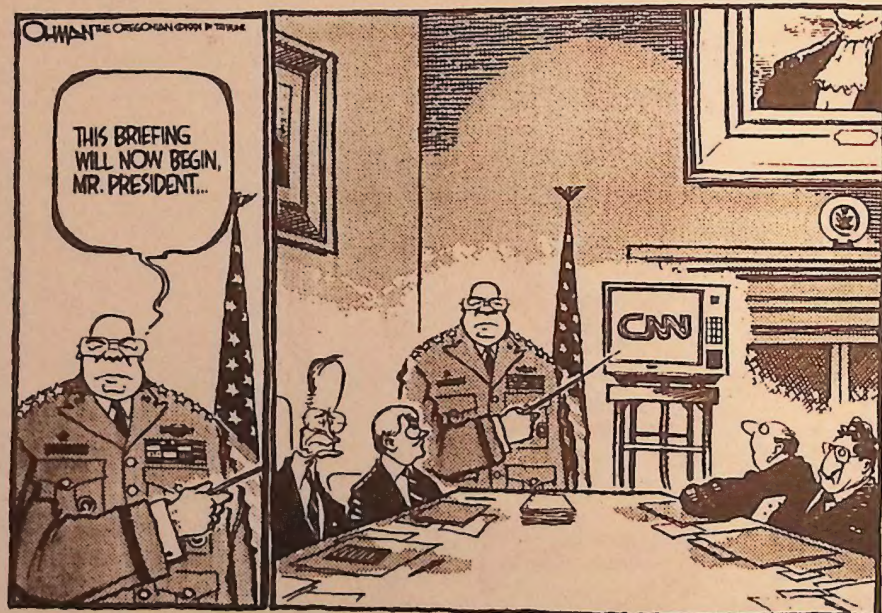
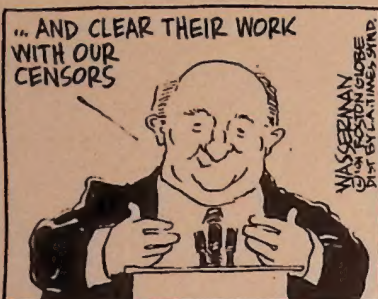
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Many people responding to our survey in issue #31 asked for more contests with prize give aways (like the survey its self) and more coupons for discounts at local businesses. So we put together a contest that will benefit us all (See page 19). As far as the coupons go we often encourage advertisers to use this form of advertising. That is not necessarily the hardest part. The hard part is convincing advertisers that many people in the valley read this publication religiously. So spread the word if you would like to see us thrive instead of *just* survive.

This issue contains one week of Doonesbury rather than the usual two. Gary Trudeau has been laid up with the flu and missed a week of cartooning. He's better now and will be fully represented in the next issue.

The most important note of this week of course is to my Valentine. Hugs and kisses sweets!



DAVID HOOKS

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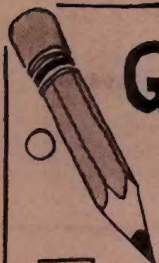
Main Street Northampton



"I SEE A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT." - GEORGE BUSH



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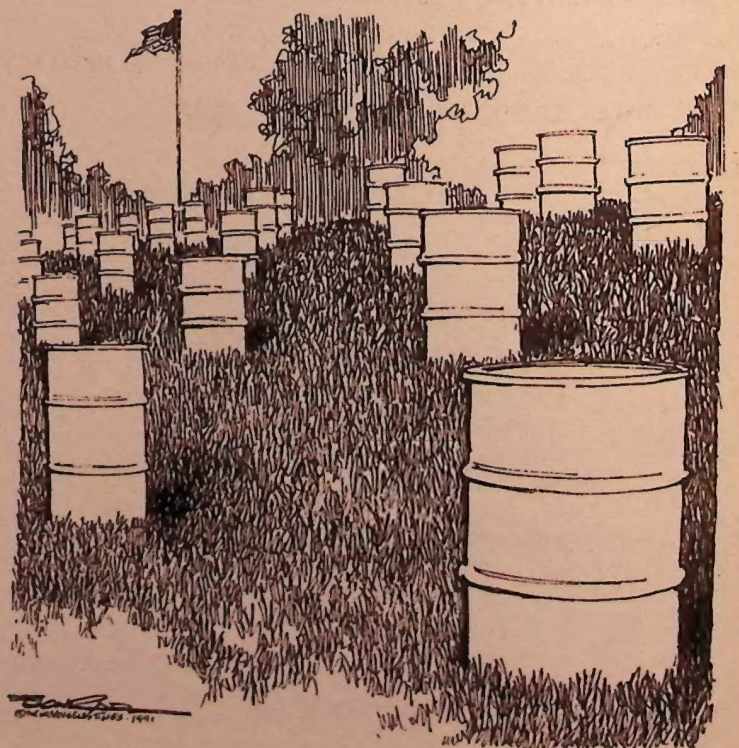
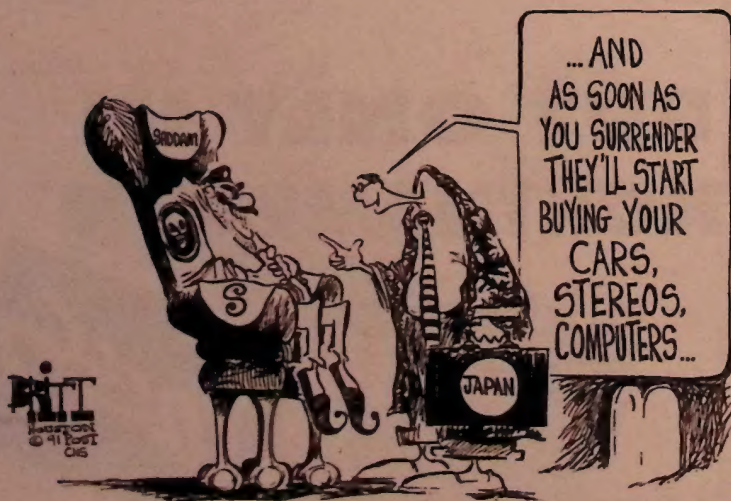
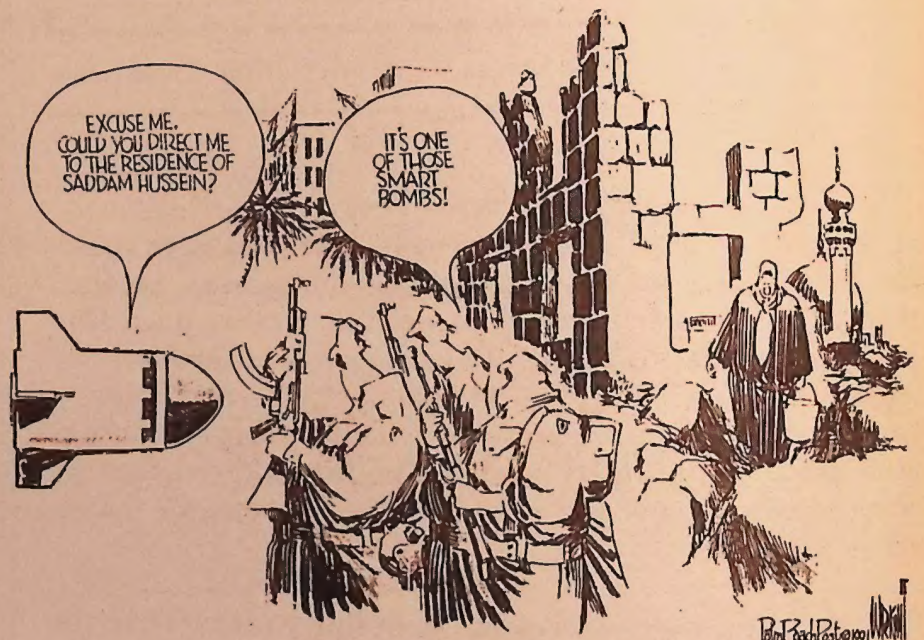


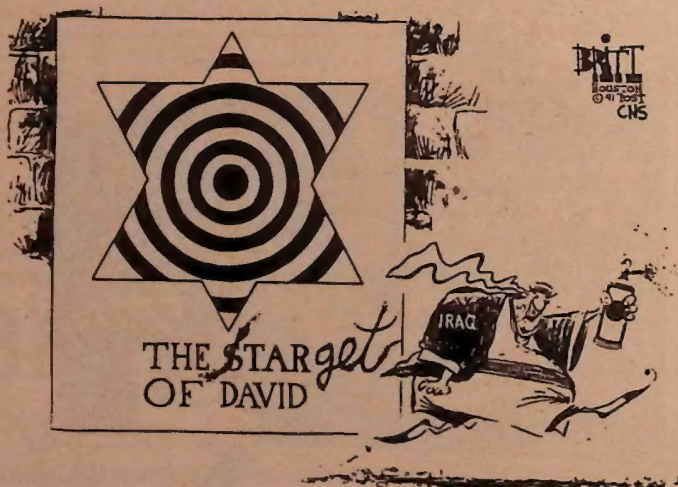
GULF WAR WORD QUIZ

MATCH SANITIZED PHRASE AT LEFT
WITH CORRECT MEANING AT RIGHT

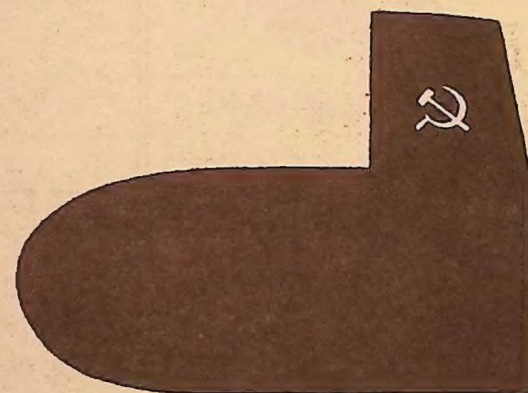
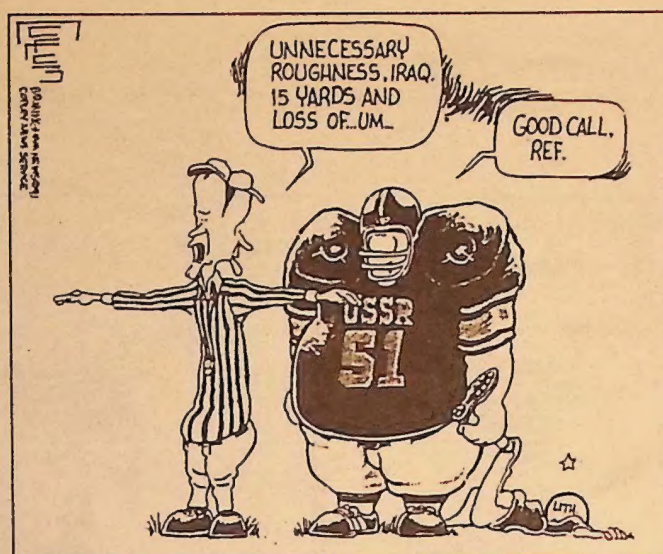
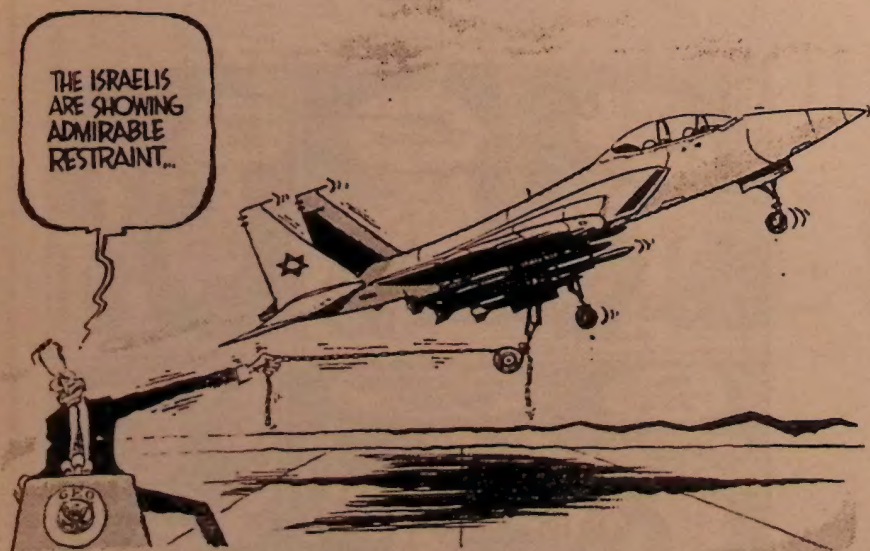
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Pounding positions | <input type="checkbox"/> A. KILLING |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Collateral damage | <input type="checkbox"/> C. KILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Saturation strikes | <input type="checkbox"/> D. KILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Carpet bombing | <input type="checkbox"/> E. KILLING |

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CHS



THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBERS

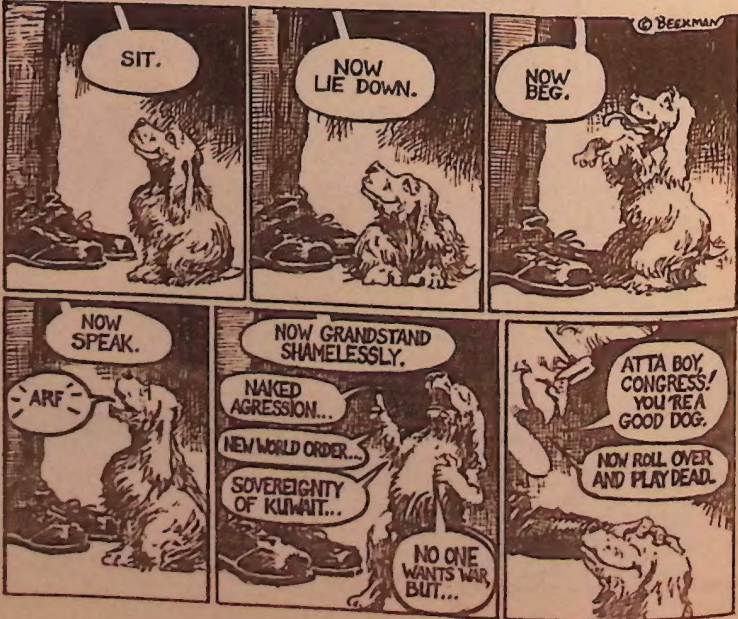
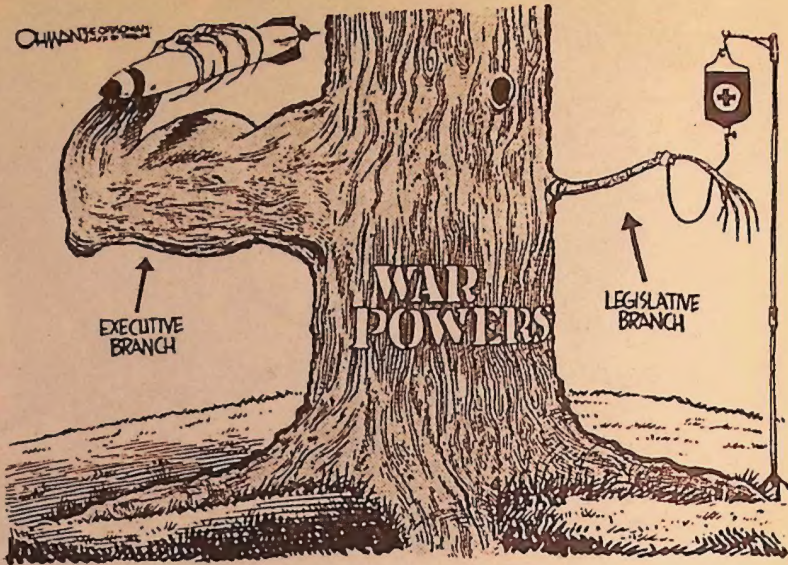
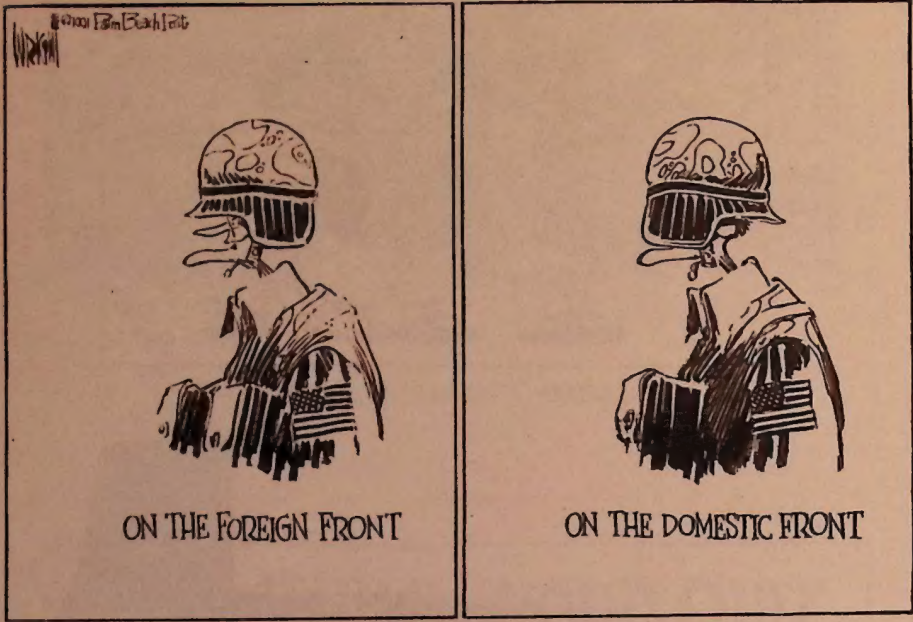
CHS

* Soviets claim reform and peace...
But under cover of the
Middle East...
They're killing men in the
Baltic States...
Is Gorbachev one of the
black berets?



* SINGS TO THE TUNE "THE GREEN BERETS"

POLITICING



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and
ANYTHING
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Diet Pepsi and
the Fabulous Baker Bros.

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and
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NOUS

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Allen, Aliens

GUAMOLE and
BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S

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and
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ROMEO and
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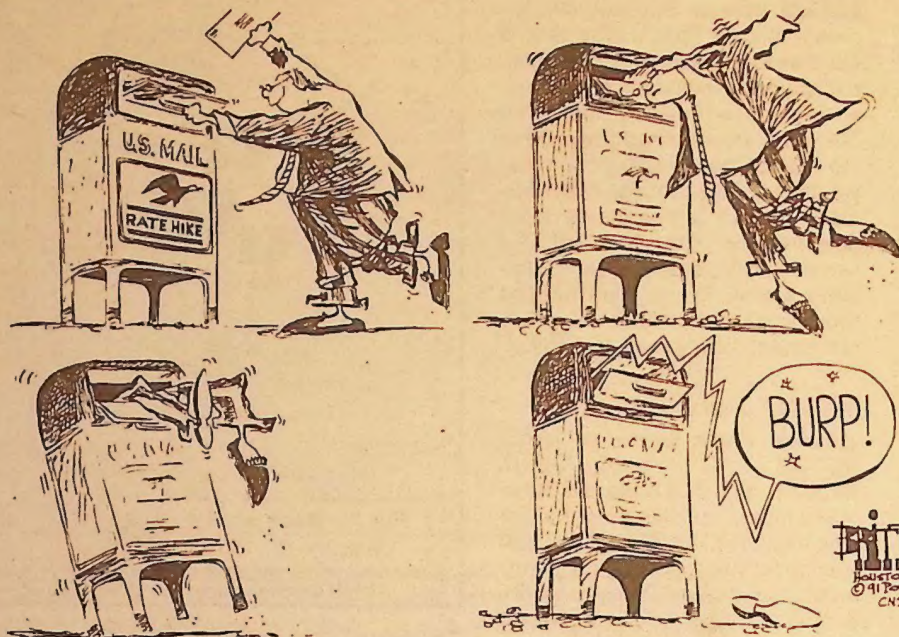
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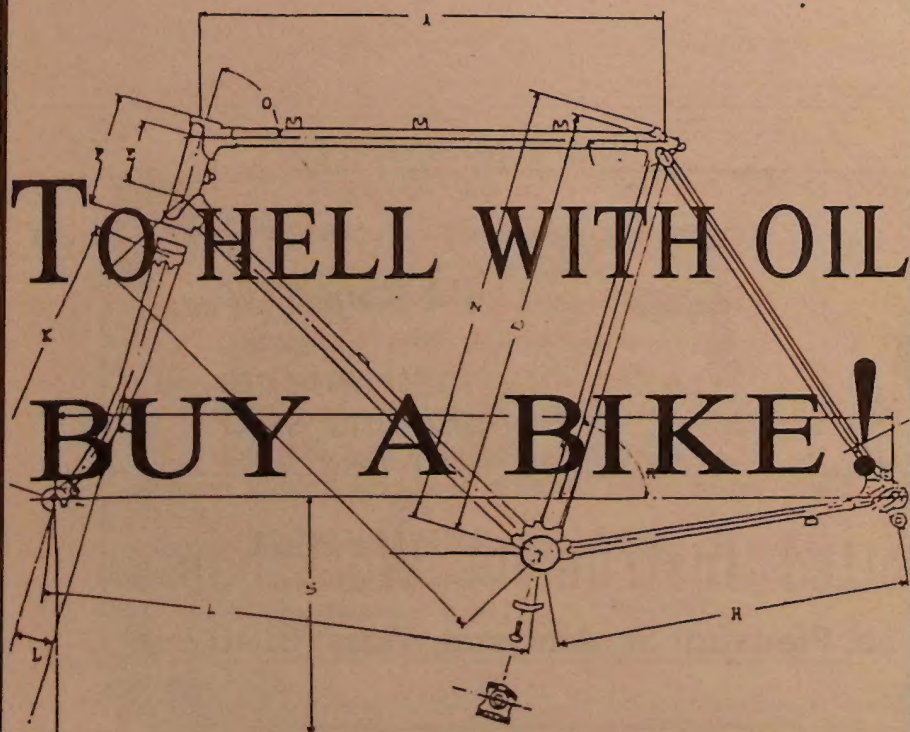
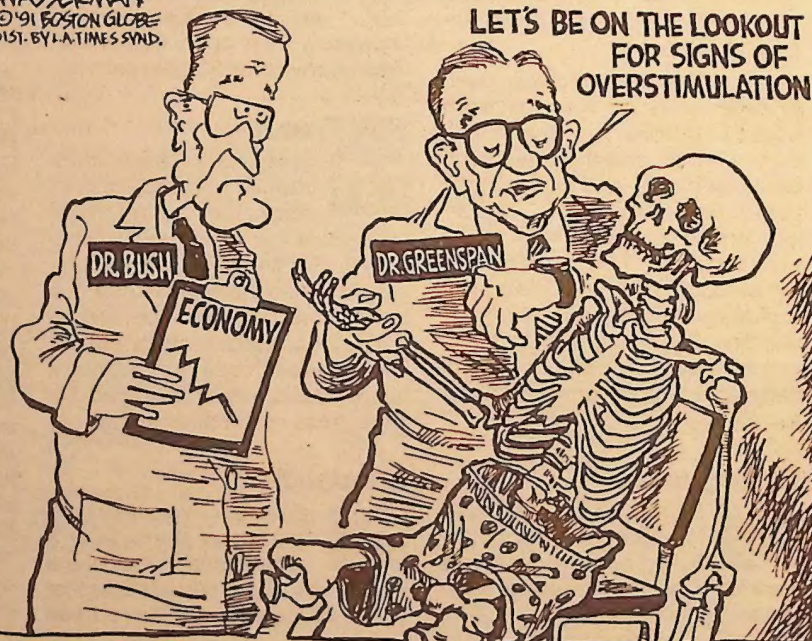


MONETARY MEANS



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LET'S BE ON THE LOOKOUT
FOR SIGNS OF
OVERSTIMULATION




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By Steve Newman

EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET


Muscle Melt

 The Royal Adelaide Hospital warned of the dangers of South Australia's recent intense heat waves after a German tourist was admitted in critical condition suffering from heat-stroke-induced "muscle melt." The 30-year-old woman had traveled into the 100-degree southern summer weather of Alice Springs from Germany, where temperatures were near freezing. The stroke led to a two-day coma, brain damage, complete kidney failure, and caused "muscle melt," a condition where intense heat makes muscles liquefy.


Winter Twisters

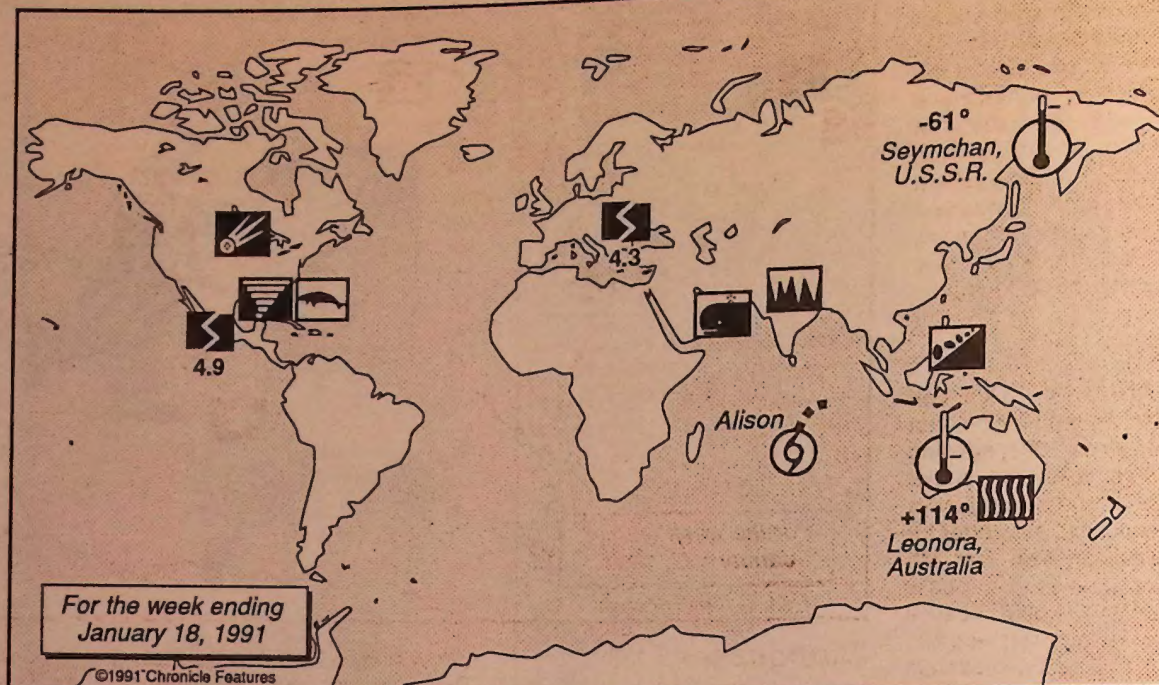
 Freak wintertime tornadoes raked South Florida's Dade and Broward counties, smashing windows, flipping airplanes, ripping off roofs, and leaving residents shaken but mostly unharmed. At least 20 planes were damaged or destroyed as the twister ripped a 100-yard-wide swath through the south side of North Perry Airport in Pembroke Pines.

Light Show


 Sky watchers across much of North America were treated to a man-made aurora when scientists released clouds of barium and lithium vapor from a research satellite. The barium formed a purple streak in the earth's magnetic field, while the lithium produced a red one. The project was designed to increase our understanding of geomagnetic storms in space, which can disrupt electrical transmission and communications systems.

Earthquakes


 In an unusually quiet week for worldwide seismic activity, earth movements were felt only in southwestern Mexico and eastern Romania.




Tropical Storms

 Tropical cyclone Alison, the season's first in the southern Indian Ocean, moved harmlessly over open waters with maximum winds of 50 miles per hour.

Still Freezing


 The biting cold wave, which claimed hundreds of lives across the northern Indian subcontinent in recent weeks, continued. Further deaths were prevented during the week largely due to the efforts by government and religious organizations to help the poor and homeless cope with overnight temperatures, which averaged 14-18 degrees colder than normal.

Landslide

 Rescuers dug out 10 bodies from a landslide at a mining area in the central Philippines where officials fear that up to 85 people may have been


trapped in 16 buried shanties. Forty-five others were injured by the slide on Mount Diwalwal in Davao del Norte province, 580 miles south of Manila.

Manatee Migrations

 Unseasonable warmth across Florida apparently has caused manatees, also known as sea cows, to migrate in the wrong direction. "People, especially boaters, need to be aware that they may come upon manatees in areas where they usually don't see them this time of year," warned Pat Rose, head of the protected species division of the Florida Department of Natural Resources. Radio-tagged manatees were detected moving northward from Brevard County back toward Jacksonville, in the far north of the state. Wildlife officials had planned to conduct the first coordinated state-wide manatee count once the marine mammals had congregated at their usual winter

locations.

War Victims

 As fears of an environmental disaster resulting from the war in the Persian Gulf waned, environmentalists told of the recent deaths of marine mammals in the region. Guenther Behrmann, an international whale expert, said that three whales which washed up on beaches in Oman, the southernmost gulf state, were killed by collisions with warships. "A bulky creature such as a sperm whale — weighing up to 40 tons — is defenseless against floating mines, loose shots, collisions and toxic waste from warships," said Behrmann, who is in Oman preparing for an exhibition on the creatures.

Additional Sources: Australian Bureau of Meteorology, British Meteorological Office, U. S. Climate Analysis Center, U. S. Earthquake Information Center and the World Meteorological Organization.

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Black Rain

Fears of an environmental disaster resulting from the Gulf War were renewed after two Kuwaiti oil refineries and an oil field in southern Kuwait were set ablaze. On the opposite side of the Gulf, Iranian officials reported that a black rain, caused by thick plumes of smoke from the burning oil, poured for ten minutes in southern Bushehr province. Western press reports said that Iraqi troops had set fire to the Kuwaiti sites, but Baghdad Radio blamed attacks by allied forces for the burning.

Eruption

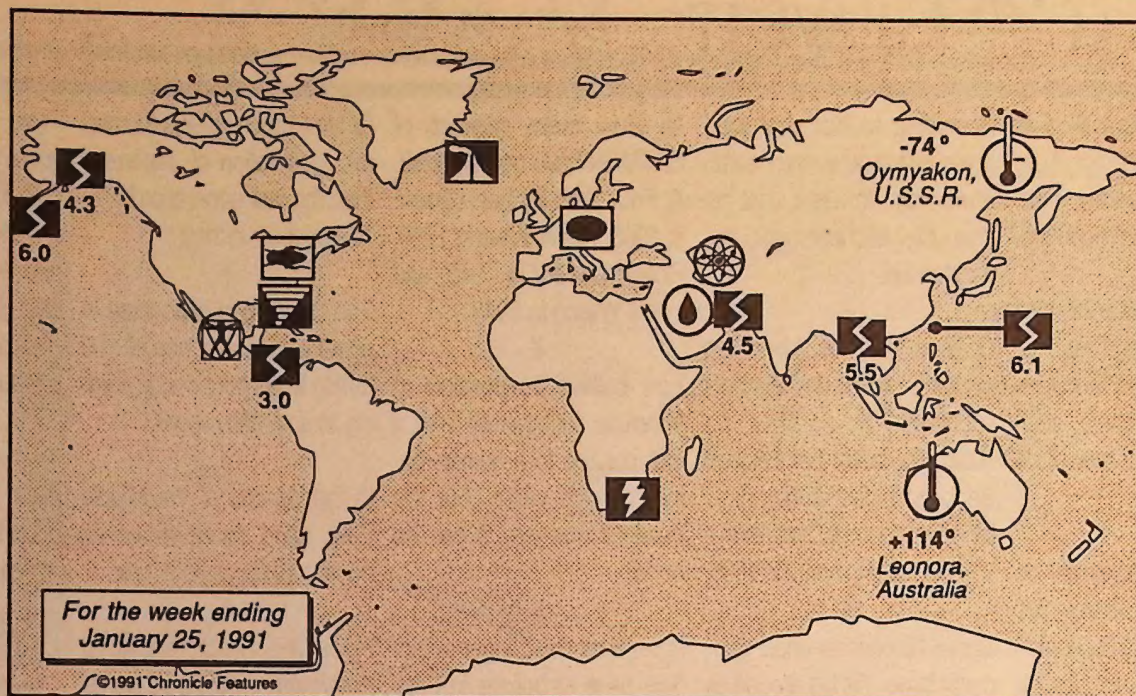
Iceland's Mt. Hekla Volcano erupted for the first time since 1981, sending streams of lava down the snow-covered mountain 80 miles east of the capital, Reykjavik. A reporter for Icelandic Television said that Mt. Hekla's active phases are locally known as "tourist eruptions" because they generally last for several months — long enough for curious travelers from around the world to visit the beautiful displays of fire on ice.

Lightning

Five people, including two three-year-old boys, were killed by a single bolt of lightning which struck a hut in Sowati black township near the South African resort of Port Shepstone. Two other people were injured, according to state-run radio reports.

Tampa Twister

A rare winter tornado caused extensive damage to horse barns and racing equipment as it ripped through Tampa Bay Downs thoroughbred racetrack along Florida's Gulf Coast. Three horses had to be destroyed after being injured, but almost 1,500 others being kept at the track were unharmed. The twister was one of several which struck three counties in the Tampa Bay Area.



Earthquakes

A moderate quake rattled the Nicaraguan capital of Managua, sending residents scurrying into the streets in panic, but causing no damage or injuries. Earth movements were also felt in southern Alaska, on Rat Island in the Aleutian Island chain, the Garmsar region of Iran, northern Burma and Taiwan.

Health Dangers

Ozone levels in downtown Mexico City soared to the highest levels for the past seven years, but the government took no emergency measures. The Department of Urban Development and Ecology recorded a reading of 318 points, considered highly dangerous by the World Health Organization.

Residents of the Mexican capital are now outnumbered by mice, rats and other pestiferous rodents that are becoming a serious health haz-

ard. A study released by the Biology Department of the National Autonomous University of Mexico estimated that there are now 14 million rodents in the Federal District — or 1.4 for every human inhabitant. Most of the pests live in sewers or around public markets.

Secret Site

Izvestia reported that an alternate nuclear testing ground to the Semipalatinsk test site was used in Kazakhstan during the late 1960s. The newspaper said that the site was secretly set up on the Ustyurt Plateau, 140 miles from the city of Shevchenko. Testing was halted after three explosions because geology of the area made it unsuitable for powerful blasts.

Roach-proof

The U.S. Agriculture Department's Insect Research Lab in Florida has discovered a chemical-free way to prevent

cockroach infestation. Air vents and fans that keep a constant breeze in attics and between walls will drive the insects out of homes and other buildings. Experts believe that roaches, which must stay moist to survive, avoid the drafts because it dries them out.

Yuppie Treats

An enterprising farmer in eastern Germany has begun serving some wealthy residents of former West Berlin the latest in trendy food — eggs from their very own hen. For about \$100 per month, people can lease a personally-named hen, which stays on the farm, laying free-range eggs that are delivered to their doorstep. Those sufficiently coldhearted can opt to have the bird slaughtered for their dining pleasure at the end of the 18-month lease period.

Additional Sources: World Meteorological Organization, U. S. Climate Analysis Center, and the U. S. Earthquake Information Center.

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TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

by L. M. Boyd

Frank Lloyd Wright liked to design houses with front doors you couldn't readily see. Sometimes, couldn't even find.

People who exercise daily also get colds, certainly. But according to Appalachian State University researchers, such exercisers get over their colds a lot more quickly.

Q: Where does Hawaii rank on the list of States wherein live the most physically fit people?
A: Depends on the list. It's #4, according to one of the most recent. Right after California (#3), Montana (#2), and Washington (#1).

The man most often credited with the invention of the military tank is none other than Leonardo da Vinci.

According to historical footnotes, just about everyone who knew him thought that as youngster, Michealangelo was a rotten kid.

Q: Are any of Abraham Lincoln's direct descendants still alive?

A: No. The last of them, Robert Beckworth, died at the age of 81 of Parkinson's Disease in a Virginia nursing home in 1985.

Some African bananas grow pretty large. As big around as your arm.

There was a time when the best pearls in the world came from the Persian Gulf

Bacteria never die of old age.

Q: How many movies of BATMAN have been made?

A: Four. With Michael Keaton in 1986, Adam West in 1966, Robert Lowery in 1949, and Lewis Wilson in 1943.

Few believe it's possible to transfuse successfully from a chimpanzee to a human being, or vice versa, but the medicos now say it can be done.

Isaac Bashevis Singer noted: "We have to believe in Free Will, we have no choice."

Q: I know the slang term "doozie" started out as short for "Duesenberg," but where'd "dilly" come from?

A: "Delightful."

Q: How much taller is the current generation of Japanese than the last generation?

A: About six inches.

The universe is expanding in some places at a rate of 100 million times per hour, according to scientific reports.

In the deserts of the Middle East, sand dunes move as much as 100 yards a year.

Ross Ice Shelf, afloat at Antarctica's edge, is as big as Texas.

A piano maker isn't confined to making only pianos. Take that German piano maker Tobias Schmidt. In 1789, he built the first guillotine.

From what follows you'd assume you're more sensitive to pain than to touch, more sensitive to touch than to temperature: your skin has 4,000,000 pain sensors, 500,000 touch sensors and 200,000 temperature sensors, about.

Among elephants, it's quite clear that no baby can be abandoned. If a mother dies, a foster mother takes over.

It was Carol Burnett who said: "Having a baby is like taking your lower lip, and forcing it over your head."

Q: Isn't the land in Japan now worth as much as the land in Canada?

A: Far more. It's valued now more than all the land in North America twice over. Residential property near the Imperial Palace in Central Tokyo is said to be worth \$7,355 a square foot.

Understand the smog over Taiwan's cities year-round runs about twice as heavy as Los Angeles smog.

Q: What's a "zebroid?"

A: It's a cross between a zebra and a horse.

Q: Don't bullfrogs eat ducks?
A: Make that ducklings. Yes. And robins and orioles. Takes a mighty big bullfrog to do that, though.

Q: Who were the first of the New World highway builders?
A: The Incas. One of their 2,500 roads went from Columbia to Chile.

Air pressure in your tire goes down a pound per square inch for every 10 degree drop in outside temperature.

In 1897, Czechoslovakia put out an automobile called the "Nesselsdorfer Waggonbau Frabrikgesellschaft." But for some reason, few people ever mention it.

In a sprint, a housecat - about 30 m.p.h. - would beat Carl Lewis - about 28 m.p.h. - and Lewis would beat an elephant - about 25 m.p.h.. Set it up, you'll see.

When the Pittsburgh baseball team lured a top notch player away from another town, a newspaper writer called the Pittsburgh boys a bunch of "pirates." The name stuck.

Among Leonardo da Vinci's sketches is a detailed drawing of a machine gun.

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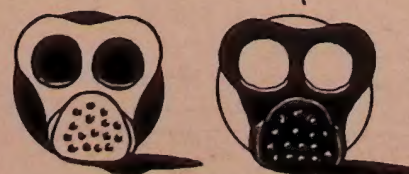
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THINK'R

IDS

WHAT FRIGHTENS
YOU MOST ABOUT WAR?

ADULTS!

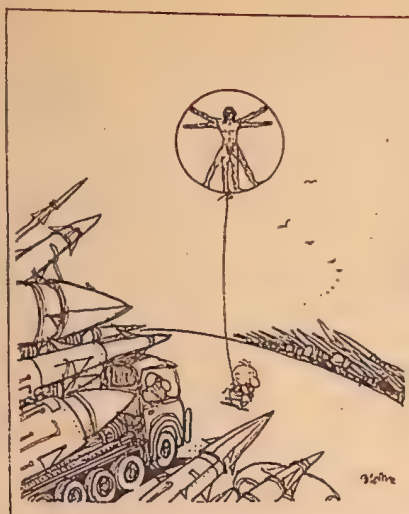


VIEWS OF THE WORLD

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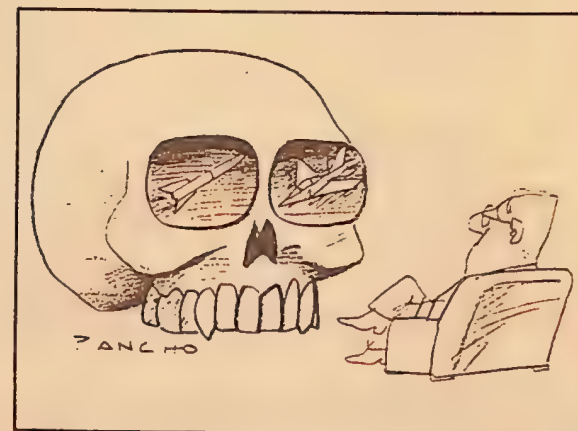
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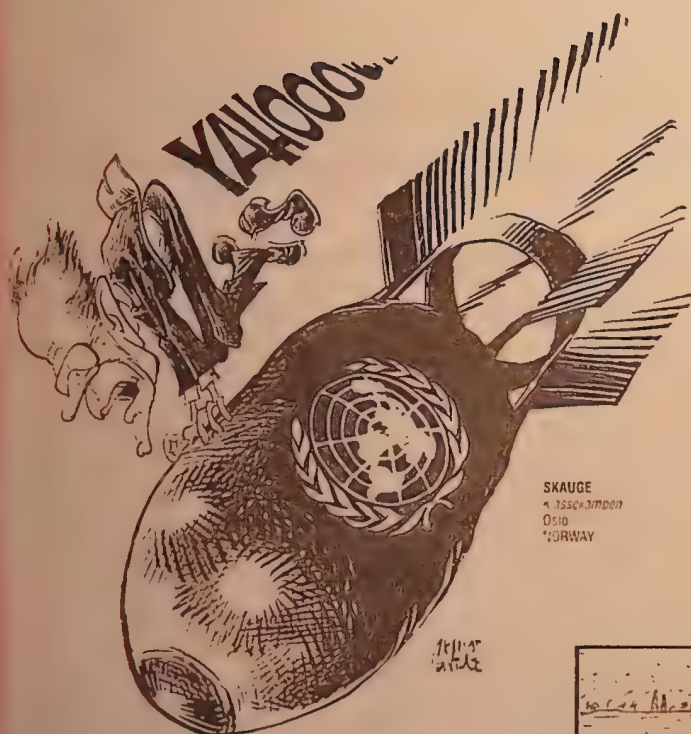
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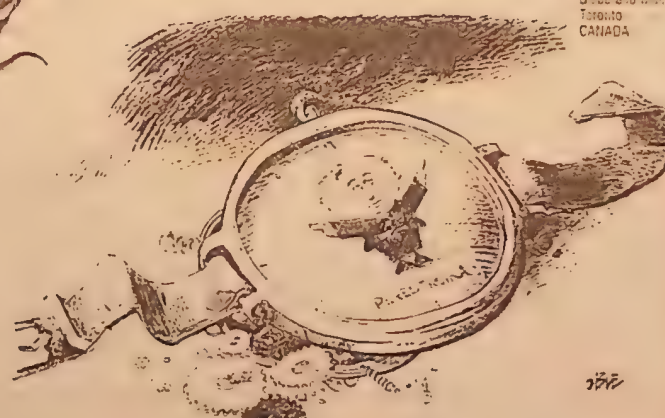
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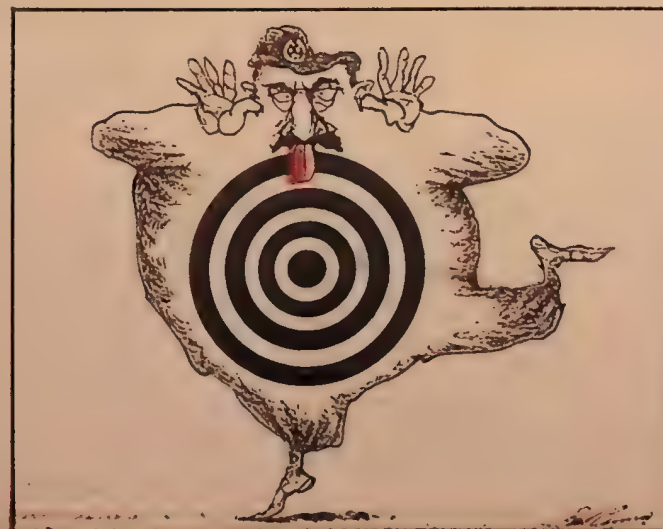


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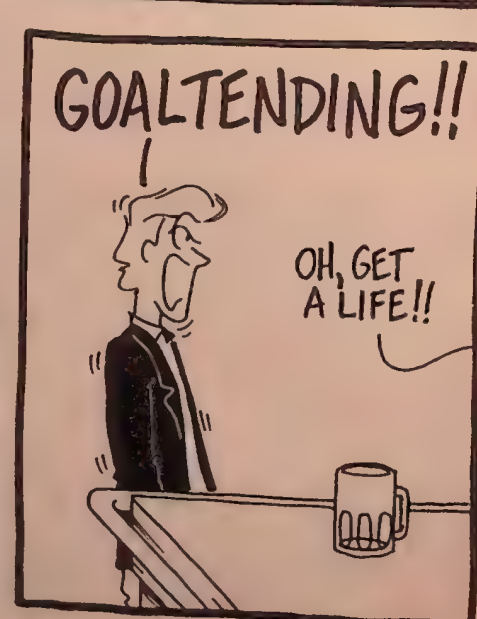
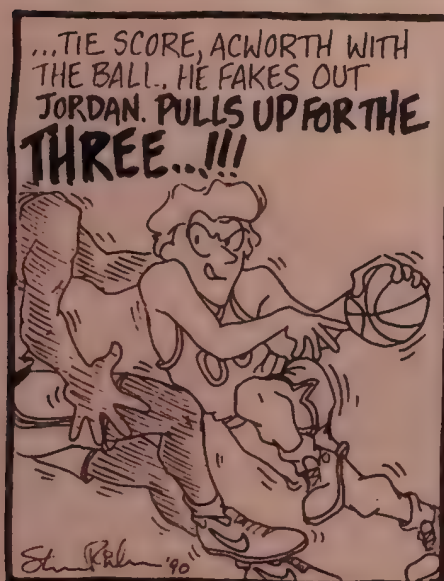
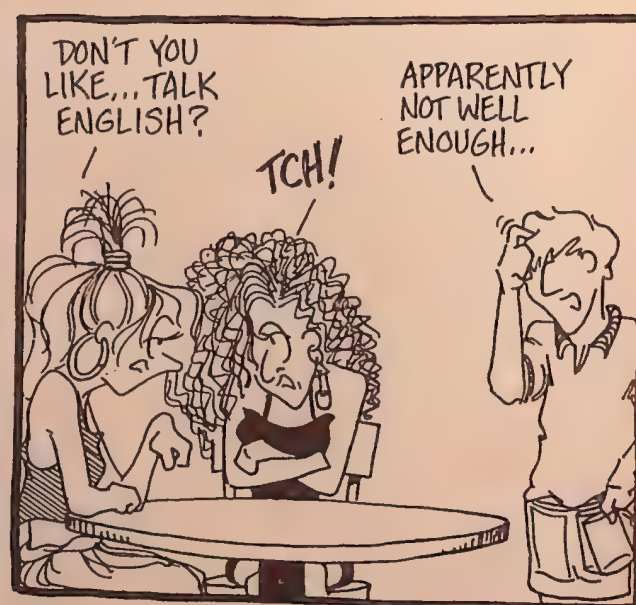
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THE BRASS & FERN By STEVE RIEHM



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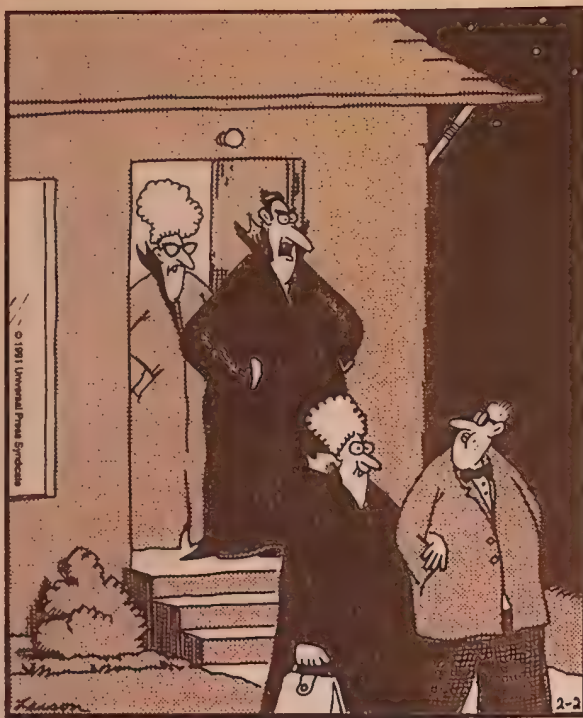
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THE FAR SIDE

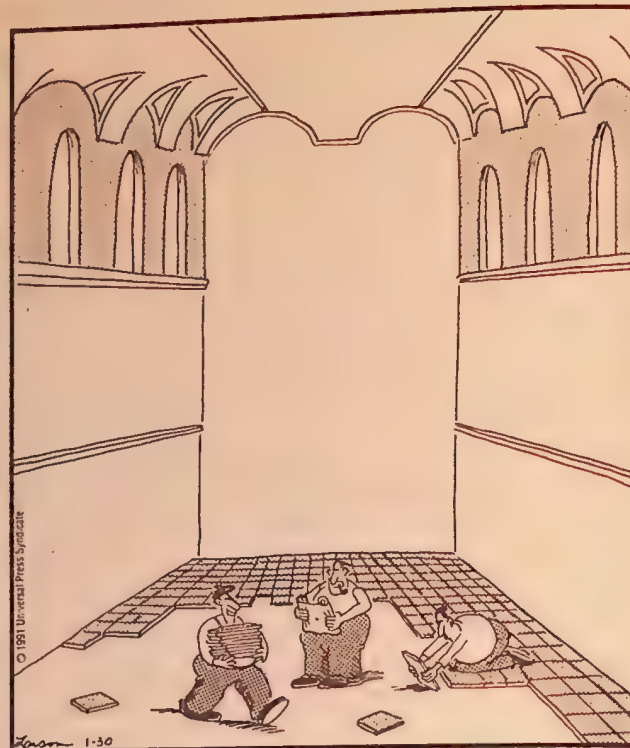
By GARY LARSON



"Look at those two macho idiots. . . . They haven't taken a single drink in days — just to see which one ends up under the table."



"One more thing, young man. You get my daughter home before sunrise — I don't want you coming back here with a pile of dried bones."



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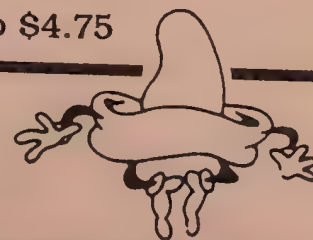
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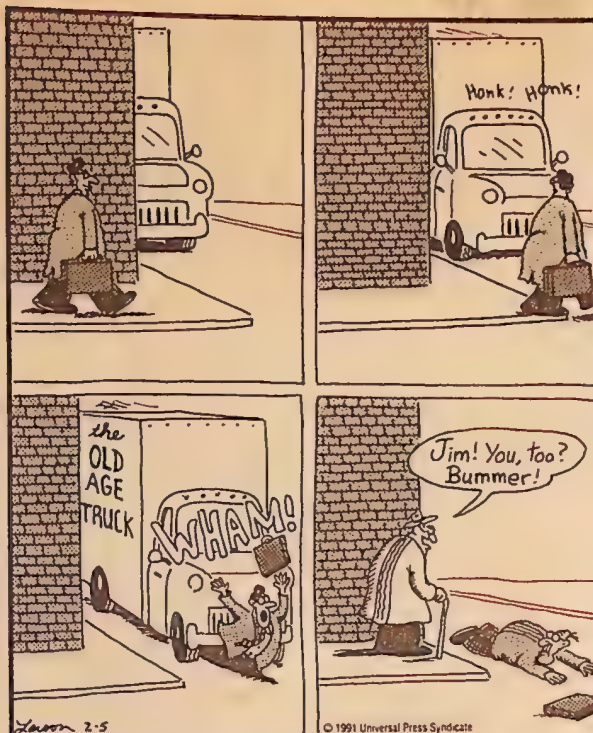
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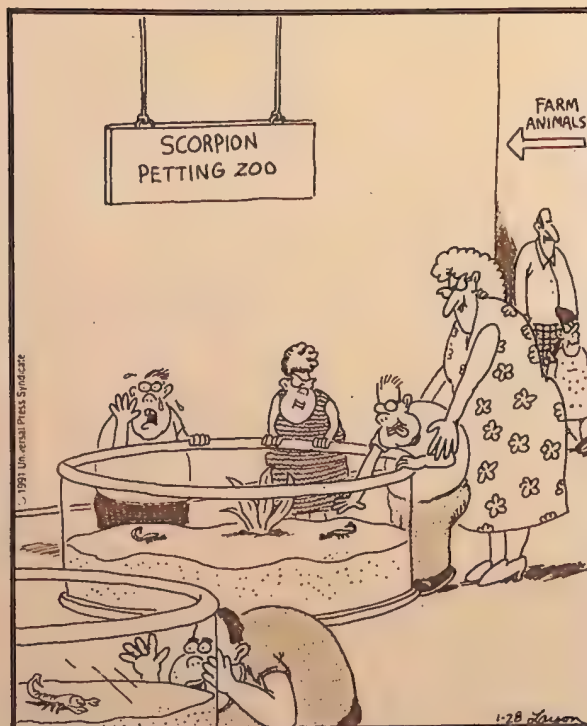
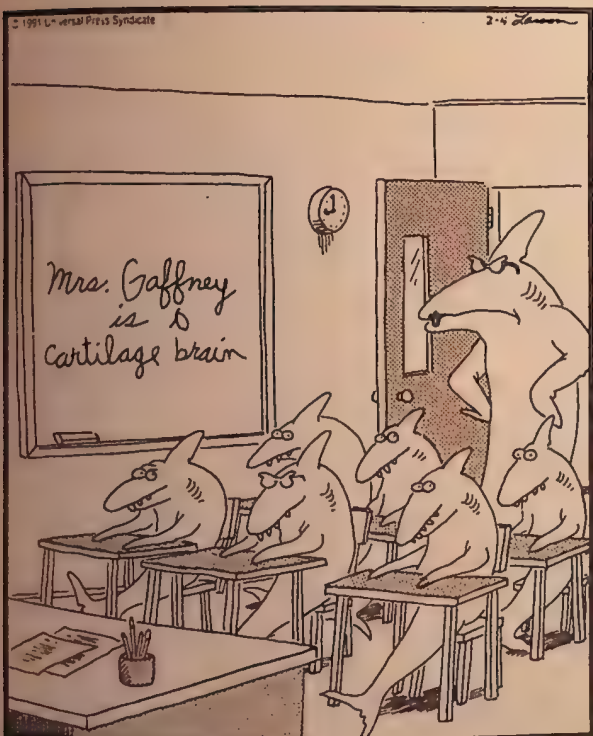
Lemmings on vacation



You never see it coming



Cattle drive quartets



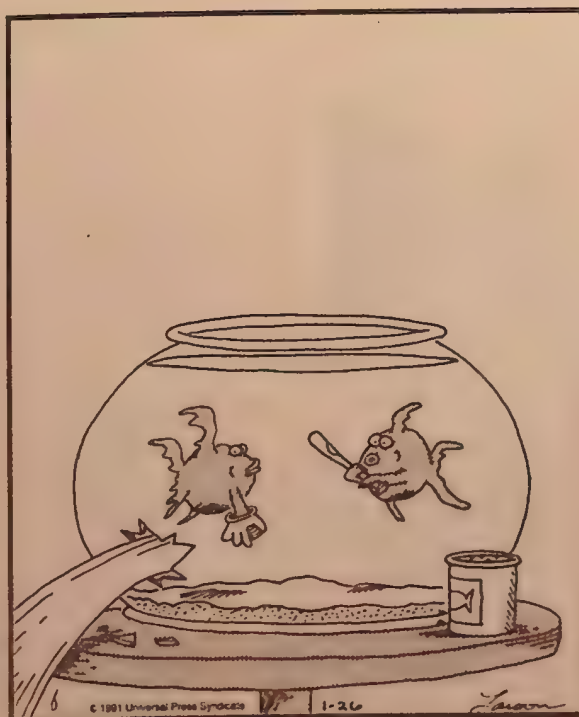
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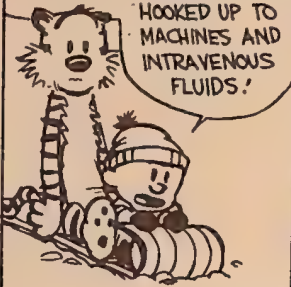
calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON

IF WE GO FAST ENOUGH AND PULL UP JUST AS WE HIT THOSE ROCKS, WE MIGHT, IF WE'RE LUCKY, CLEAR THE RAVINE AND HAVE THE RIDE OF OUR LIVES!



ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WE MISS, WE'LL PROBABLY SPEND OUR FEW REMAINING DAYS HOOKED UP TO MACHINES AND INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS!



IT'S EITHER SPECTACULAR, UNBELIEVABLE SUCCESS, OR CRUSHING, HOPELESS DEFEAT! THERE IS NO MIDDLE GROUND!



OK, THERE IS A MIDDLE GROUND, BUT IT'S FOR SISSY WEASELS.



JUMP... JUMP... JUMP... JUMP... JUMP...



...JUMP... JUMP... JUMP... JUMP! I WIN!



YOU'VE ONLY WON IN THE OUTWARD MANIFESTATION OF THIS GAME. MY SPIRIT IS STILL UNVANQUISHED.



THAT'S 165 STRAIGHT GAMES YOU'VE LOST.



MY SPIRIT IS KICKING THE SPIRIT OF YOUR CHECKERS CLEAR ACROSS THE ROOM.

WHO WOULD LIKE TO SUMMARIZE WHAT WE JUST READ? CALVIN, HOW ABOUT YOU?



SORRY! I'M HERE AGAINST MY WILL. I REFUSE TO COOPERATE.



THEY CAN TRANSPORT MY BODY TO SCHOOL, BUT THEY CAN'T CHAIN MY SPIRIT! MY SPIRIT ROAMS FREE! WALLS CAN'T CONFINES IT! LAWS CAN'T RESTRAIN IT! AUTHORITY HAS NO POWER OVER IT!



CALVIN, IF YOU'D PUT HALF THE ENERGY OF YOUR PROTESTS INTO YOUR SCHOOLWORK...

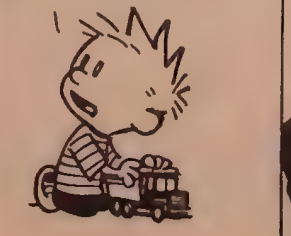


YOU CAN TRY TO LEAVE A MESSAGE, BUT MY SPIRIT SCREENS ITS CALLS.

TIME FOR BED, CALVIN.



YOU CAN PUT MY BODY TO BED, BUT MY SPIRIT'S GOING TO STAY RIGHT HERE, SO WHY BOTHER? WHY SHOULDN'T I JUST STAY UP?

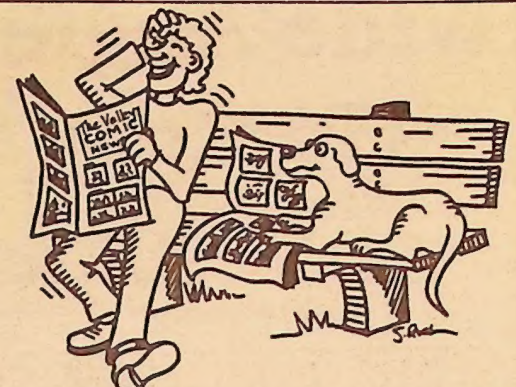
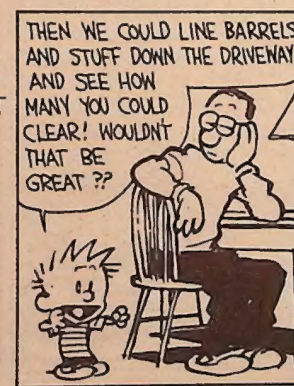
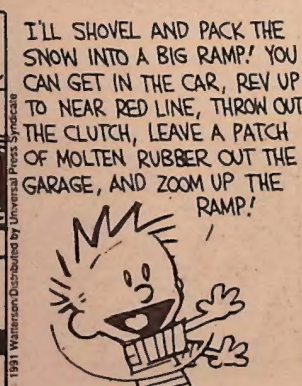
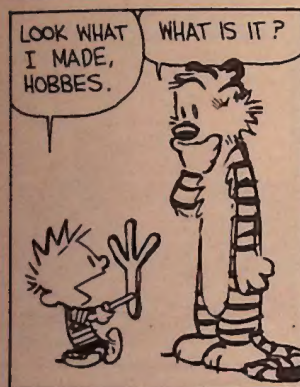


BECAUSE THE BODY IS THE HOME OF THE SPIRIT, AND IF YOU'RE NOT IN BED IN TWO MINUTES, YOUR SPIRIT IS GOING TO BE PERMANENTLY NOMADIC.



HOME SWEET HOME.





THINK WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU. BE ONE OF THE FEW, THE PROUD, THE ADVERTISERS IN THE VALLEY COMIC NEWS. INSTEAD OF READING THIS AD, YOU COULD BE SELLING THE GOODS AND SERVICES THAT MAKE YOUR BUSINESS GROW, AND OURS AS WELL.

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WHERE-Peking Garden Restaurant
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WHEN-Sunday, March 10, 1991
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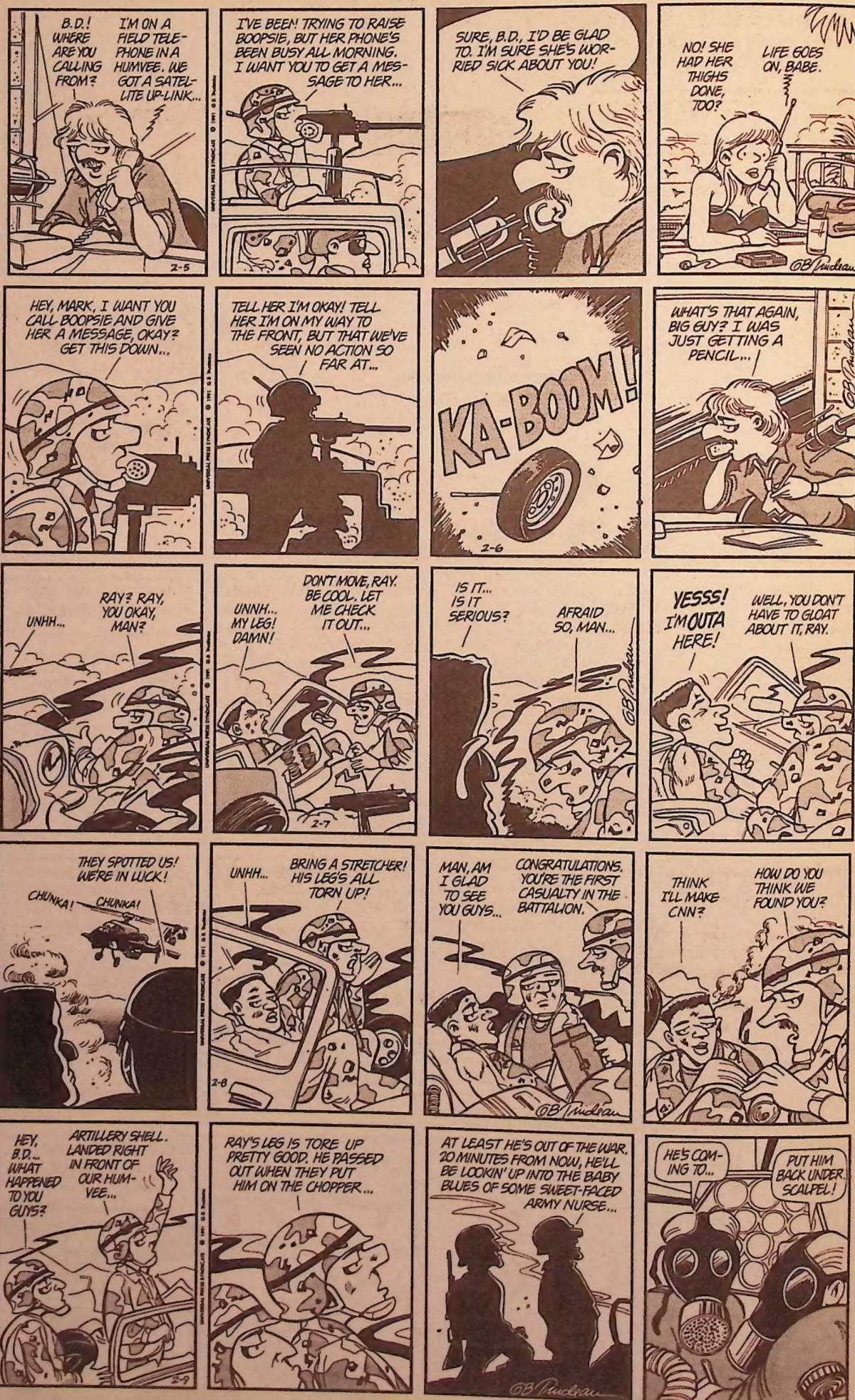
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BY G.B. TRUDEAU



THE VALLEY COMIC NEWS

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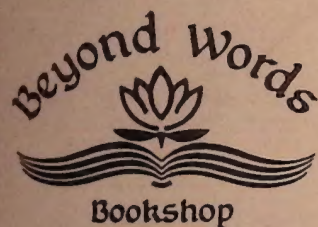
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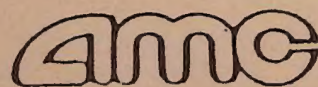
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"What is this?" you may ask. Well, we have been busily tabulating the results of our survey (Issue #31), and we have found that we have a loyal, large and avid readership who want more of the same, plus. That plus is the reason for this prize give-away. You requested contests, humorous columns, more comics, and local features and cartoonists. Unfortunately, these things cost money. We are living in tight times and the **Valley Comic News** is prevailing primarily because we operate on such a low budget. This low budget, however, prevents us from expanding at quite the rate we would like. That is where you come in.

Here's the deal. The merchants in the area (listed left) have graciously donated these prizes for our present Subscription Drive and Prize Give-Away. All you have to do is fill out one or both of the coupons below, enclose a check for the special low, low price of \$15 per subscription, send it along and leave the rest to us. On March 11th we will pick tickets at random and notify the winners whose names will be printed in the following issue.

We know that this may seem like a bald-faced, *naked*, attempt on our part to raise some cash and, well, it is. No one is getting rich here. Our income barely exceeds our costs, and since the Syndicates (sounds ominous doesn't it?) want cash in advance for new features, we have to cough up the dough in large chunks (sorry about that, bad metaphor). This issue we have added Joe Bob Briggs, and more is on the way.

And what a great way to help us. This is your basic win-win proposition. We're sure you know some people in the greater United States who would benefit from the insightful outlook offered by the **Valley Comic News**. Remember, we are only available in Amherst, Northampton, South Hadley, and Greenfield. Think of all the people outside this area whose lives would be brightened by a bi-weekly dose of Comic Newsness. A brother, an aunt, your mother, your out-of-town honey, that old friend whom you haven't called. Think of the possibilities. You would be eternally popular with them and us. Or just get one for yourself.

Please remember that to be eligible for prizes, you must get a subscription. Enter as often as you like, but each entry must come with a subscription. All entries must be in by March 10th. The winners will be drawn the next day and the names will be published in the March 21st issue. There are two entry forms below. We hope that you take this opportunity to help us become the paper you want. Good luck and thank you for your support.

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